

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 925

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the meritorious service performed by aviators in the United States Armed Forces who were shot down over, or otherwise forced to land in, hostile territory yet evaded enemy capture or were captured but subsequently escaped.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 19, 2009

Mr. DeFAZIO (for himself, Mr. STEARNS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MASSA, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. BOCCIERI, Mr. SCHRADER, Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. COOPER, Mr. FILNER, Mr. FARR, and Mr. DICKS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the meritorious service performed by aviators in the United States Armed Forces who were shot down over, or otherwise forced to land in, hostile territory yet evaded enemy capture or were captured but subsequently escaped.

Whereas aviators in the Armed Forces, including pilots, navigators, bombardiers, weapons control officers, and other aircraft crew members, have served the United States with great courage and distinction in every major conflict during the 20th and 21st centuries;

Whereas thousands of aviators in the Armed Forces have been forced down in hostile territory while performing their missions, either as a result of being shot down or because of mechanical problems with their aircraft;

Whereas many of these aviators overcame long odds and great hardships to return to their units and resume their service to the United States;

Whereas these aviators faced the added responsibility of maintaining the secrecy of their escape and evasion methods in order to protect the lives of people who assisted them and other aviators;

Whereas the need to maintain secrecy initially prevented these aviators from being recognized for their meritorious service in avoiding capture or in escaping from captivity; and

Whereas the Armed Forces still have not recognized these aviators for their meritorious accomplishment of avoiding capture or escaping from captivity: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2       resentatives that—

3               (1) aviators in the United States Armed Forces  
4       who were shot down over, or otherwise forced to  
5       land in, hostile territory yet evaded enemy capture  
6       or were captured but subsequently escaped to return  
7       to their units and resume their service to the United  
8       States should be recognized for their extraordinary  
9       service; and

- 1           (2) the Secretaries of the military departments
- 2       should consider these aviators for appropriate rec-
- 3       ognition within their branch of the Armed Forces.

